

CLAIMS

1. A manager loadable printer.

5 2. The printer of claim 1 loadable with an applet served by a manager.

10 3. The printer of claim 1 loadable with an applet served by a manager and further comprising a virtual machine capable of executing the applet.

15 4. The printer of claim 1 further comprising an interface for communication with an agent.

20 5. The printer of claim 1 loadable with an applet comprising printer instructions.

25 6. A method of instructing a printer having a virtual machine, the method comprising:

providing an agent, the agent having an associated applet;

loading the applet on the virtual machine; and

executing the applet on the virtual machine.

7. The method of claim 6 further comprising communicating the
25 executing to the agent.

8. The method of claim 7 further comprising communicating from the agent to a manager.

9. The method of claim 6 wherein the applet includes print job accounting instructions.

10. The method of claim 6 wherein the executing includes print job accounting.

11. The method of claim 6 wherein the loading includes serving an applet to a printer via a network.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the network includes the Internet.

13. The method of claim 6 wherein the providing includes loading the agent on a workstation.

14. The method of claim 6 wherein the providing includes loading the agent on a server.

15. The method of claim 6 wherein the agent executes on a virtual machine.

16. The method of claim 6 wherein the applet includes an instruction selected from the group consisting of alerting, embedding, configuring, setting, and combinations thereof.

17. A printer comprising:

an applet

a virtual machine capable of executing the applet; and

an interface for communication between the printer and a remote agent.

18. The printer of claim 17 wherein the interface comprises a protocol adaptor.

19. The printer of claim 17 wherein the interface comprises a connector.

20. The printer of claim 17 wherein the interface comprises a syntax and a syntax parser.

21. The printer of claim 17 wherein the interface comprises XML and an XML parser.

22. The printer of claim 17 wherein the interface comprises TCP/IP.

23. The printer of claim 17 wherein the agent communicates with a manager.

24. The printer of claim 17 wherein the applet includes printer instructions.

25. A method of instructing a printer having a virtual machine comprising:

serving an applet to the printer;

executing the applet on the virtual machine to produce a result;

communicating the result from the printer to an agent; and

communicating the result from the agent to a manager.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein the serving includes loading the applet into memory on the printer.

27. The method of claim 25 further comprising initiating the executing via a manager and the agent.

28. The method of claim 25 further comprising communicating arguments from a manager to the agent

29. The method of claim 25 wherein the communicating from the printer to the agent includes communicating via a network.

30. The method of claim 25 wherein the serving includes serving an applet to a plurality of printers each having a virtual machine.

31. A computer-readable medium containing a computer program that is storable in memory and executable by a processor to configure a printer and at least one computer to perform the method of claim 25.

32. A printer comprising:

an applet

execution means for executing the applet; and

interface means for communicating between the printer and a remote

5 agent.

33. The printer of claim 32 wherein the interface means comprises a
syntax and a syntax parser.

10 34. The printer of claim 32 wherein the interface means comprises
XML and an XML parser.

34. The printer of claim 32 wherein the interface means comprises
TCP/IP.

15 35. The printer of claim 32 wherein the agent communicates with a
manager.

20 36. The printer of claim 32 wherein the applet includes printer
instructions.